International Maritime Bureau's Warning to India

3394. SHRI W. ANGOU SINGH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the International Maritime Bureau (IMM) has given warning to India to fall victims to escalated operation by the pirates in. the sea-zones;

(b) the measures taken up by Government to combat the pirates in the sea-zones; and

(c) the measures taken up to develop seashore area of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI KRISHNAM RAJU): (a) International Maritime Bureau (1MB) has issued general message to the mariners to be extra cautious and to take necessary precautionary measures while passing through Malaca Straits, a few ports in Indonesia, Singapore Straits, Philips Channels, Chttasgong Roads, Mongola Anchorage, Colombo Anchorage, Banglasdesh, Southern tip of the Red Sea and anchorage at Chennai, Kochi and Kandla in India.

(b) Regular surveillance is carried out by Naval/Coast Guard ships and aircrafts to prevent piracy in the Indian waters. Coast Guard remains in constant touch with Piracy Reporting Centre, Kuala Lumpur to thwart any attempt of pirates in Indian Waters. Coast Guard has undertaken antipiracy joint exercises with Japan, Philippines and Maldives. It also conducted the Association of Sonth East Asian Nations (ASEAN) Regional Forum Workshop on anti-piracy during October, 2000 in which 28 countries participated to discuss the measures for combating piracy and armed robbery against ships.

(c) The development of the sea-shore area of the country is not the responsibility of Ministry of Defence.

Women Military Schools/Colleges

† 3395. DR. A.K. PATEL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Government women military schools/colleges being run in the country at present, State-wise;

(b) the criteria being followed for getting admission in these schools/ colleges;